(c) whether such regular periodical drives are likely to be maintained: and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). The Delhi Railway Police has been regularly conducting drives against the anti-social elements at the Railway Stations in Delhi. During the current year, 3787 persons (anti-social elements) were arrested as a result of these drives.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Expansion of F.A.C.T.

2543. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal before the Government to expand the F.A.C.T. at Alwaye in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the proposed amount for the expansion work at the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. Alwaye in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c). Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT) is setting up a new 900 tonnes per day (TPD) ammonia plant at Udyogamandal at an estimated cost of Rs. 618 crore. The project is scheduled to be commissioned in June/July, 1997.

Environmental clearance for FACT's proposal for establishing a 900 TPD sulphuric acid plant at Ambalamedu at an estimated cost of Rs. 88.20 crores is awaited.

The proposal for building a 300 TPD Methanol plant at Udyogamandal at an estimated cost of Rs. 114.26 crore has not been found economically viable.

Opening of Tefulia Corridor

2544. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open Tefulia Corridor to connect Dinajpur with Jalpaiguri through Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). The Ministry of External Affairs has informed that the proposal to open Tefulia Corridor to connect Dinajpur and Jalpaiguri through Bangladesh has not been taken up with the Government of Bangladesh. Our proposals for overall multi-modal transit facilities through Bangladesh has not evoked any positive response from Bangladesh side.

School Going Children

2545. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of school going children killed in road accident in Delhi during the last six months;

(b) whether these accidents are due to non-availability of traffic personnel/red lights at the red light crossing in the morning from 6 A.M. to 8 A.M.;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government are also facing acute shortage of traffic personnel to cope up with this problem; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The number of such children killed in road accidents in Delhi during the period extending from June, 1996 to November, 1996 was 14.

(b) and (c). Apart from deploying staff for carrying speedy checks, the traffic signals remain functional during the morning hours.

(d) and (e). There was a shortage of police personnel in the traffic unit of Delhi Police, but recently the Government of India has sanctioned 1102 additional posts for this unit. The recruitment process in this regard has been completed and the recruits are at present on training.

Nature Conservation Walk

2546. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether first Nature Conservation Walk has been organised in Delhi in November, 1996 by the World Wide Fund for Nature;

(b) if so, the details thereof with background including number of participants;

(c) whether the walk had some objectives;

(d) if so, the details thereof with the success made to achieve the objectives;

(e) whether the Government propose to issue instructions for such walks in other major cities of the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (d). The World Wide Fund for Nature - India informs that they organised a nature conservation walk in Delhi in November, 1996 with the objective of raising awareness on some of Delhi's environmental problems. Approximately 900 school children participated.

(e) and (f). Various awareness raising programmes, including nature conservation walks, are conducted by non-governmental organisations and other institutions in the country. These cover major cities as well. Such programmes are encouraged and given support by way of financial assistance from time to time.

Horticulture/Fishery Schemes

2547. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of horticulture, fruit bearing trees plantation and fisheries schemes implemented in the country, during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the funds provided by the Government for these schemes, during the said period, separately State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Pension to Freedom Fighters

2548. SHRI ANIL KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of 'Baal Sena', a wing of the Azad Hind Fauz;

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to accord freedom fighters' status to the said 'Baal Senanies';

(c) whether at least letter of appreciation, recognition certificate and some allowance or pension should be given to them;

(d) whether no facility has been provided to any of the Baal Senanies so far; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). At present no such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(d) and (e). Samman pension and other facilities will be granted to only those freedom fighters whose claims are covered by the eligibility criteria laid down under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980.

[English]

National Co-operative Consumer Federation of India

2549. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the basic objectives and functions of the National Co-operative Consumer Federation of India (NCCF);

(b) whether the budgetary support to NCCF has been withdrawn by the Government;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the Government are considering to restore the budgetary support to NCCF?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) It has been reported by the National Cooperative Consumer Federation (NCCF) that the basic objectives and functions of the NCCF are to provide supply support to Consumer Cooperatives besides rendering technical and promotional guidance for improving and increasing their operational and managerial efficiency.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Displaced Indians from Burma

2550. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had made a provision to issue licence for employment and livelihood and to provide Government jobs in Class III and Class IV categories to the displaced Indian repatriated from Burma;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the said provision is still existing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) Instructions were issued to the State Governments in 1965 that apart from the grant of business loans to repatriates from Burma, priority may also be given to them in the matter of grant of licences, permits etc. where these are required for any occupation or trade. These instructions are still in operation. Age and fee concessions were earlier admissible to repatriates from